

# MINUTES

OF THE

## SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

AT ITS

### ANNUAL SESSIONS

AT

COLUMBIA, S. C.,

OCTOBER 17, 18, 19, 20, 1877.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF SYNOD.

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# MINUTES.

COLUMBIA, S. C., October 17th, 1877.

The Synod of South Carolina met according to adjournment, in the First Presbyterian church, Columbia, S. C., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. D. Harrison, Moderator, from Exodus xxxiii. 15: "And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence."

After the sermon, the Synod was called to order, prayer was offered by the Moderator, and upon the calling of the roll the following members were found to be present:

## BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. H. Saye,	S. G. Hemphill, (2)	Bethesda.
A. A. James,	L. R. Williams, (2)	Beth Shiloh.
D. Harrison,	Charles Douglass, (2)	Catholic and Pleas't Grove.
T. W. Erwin, (2)*	W. W. Brice, (2)	Concord.
J. S. Bailey,	J. F. Carothers, (2)	Ebenezer and Rock Hill.
J. L. Wilson, (2)	F. W. Eison,	Fair Forest and Grindal
R. E. Cooper,	George C. Gill,	Fishing Creek. [Shoals.
J. S. White,	A. R. Banks, (2)	Fort Mill and Waxhaw.
R. D. Perry,	J. C. Caldwell, (2)	Mt. Olivet.
D. P. Robinson, (2)	James Hemphill, (2)	Purity.
J. W. Spratt, (2)	J. J. Porter, (2)	Six Mile Creek.
L. R. McCormick, (3)	Wm. Perry,	Unionville.
L. H. Wilson, (2)	J. R. Schorb,	Yorkville.
J. B. Mack,		
B. G. Clifford.		

## CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
George Howe,	A. Crawford, (2)	Columbia, First church.
J. L. Girardeau,		
J. D. A. Brown, (2)	Mortimer Glover,	Orangeburg.
G. R. Brackett, (2)	Geo. S. Cook, (2)	Charleston, Second church.
F. L. Leeper,		
J. R. Dow,		
W. F. Junkin,	J. A. Enslow,	Zion (Glebe Street).
T. H. Cunningham,	Thos. Stenhouse,	Ebenezer.

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\* The figures opposite indicate the day of enrollment of members who were tardy.

## HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
S. H. Hay,	R. J. McCreight,	Camden.
J. A. Cousar,	H. L. McLaurin, (2)	Carolina and Red Bluff.
J. G. Richards,	R. C. McFadden,	Concord.
James McDowell,	J. S. McFadden,	Manning and Brewington.
W. A. Gregg, (2)	A. F. Cousar,	Bishopville and Hephzibah.
J. E. Dunlop, (3)	J. Bookman,	Horeb.
E. H. Buist,	J. C. Coit, (2)	Cheraw.
W. S. Plumer,	Jas. McCutchen, (3)	Indiantown.
W. W. Mills,	W. D. Bolick, (2)	Lebanon and Salem (L. R.).
N. W. Edmunds, (2)	J. B. Jennings,	Bennettsville and Great Pee
W. T. Thompson, (2)	Edward Clarke, (2)	Pine Tree and Pisgah. [Dee.
C. E. Chichester,	Jas. W. Law, (2)	Scion.
J. S. Cozby,	W. M. Scott,	Mt. Zion.
W. J. McKay,	T. B. Fraser, (2)	Sumterville.
A. M. Hassell.	Isaac W. Bradley,	Salem (B. R.).
	J. R. Shaw,	Turkey Creek.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. B. Adger, (2)	W. W. Knight,	Carmel and George's Creek.
C. B. Stewart,	E. L. Miller,	Nazareth.
John McLees,	G. B. Boozer,	Smyrna, Gilder's Creek, and
J. O. Lindsay, (3)	J. F. Dorroh,	Washington St. [Mt. Bethel.
W. F. Pearson,		
W. P. Jacobs,		
Thos. H. Law,		
Hugh Strong,		
A. P. Nicholson.	J. O. Templeton,	Rocky Spring, Friendship,
J. L. Martin,	Thomas Thomson,	Abbeville. [and Lisbon.
D. E. Frierson,	W. D. Evins,	Anderson.
R. A. Fair,	J. M. Baxter,	Aveleigh.
W. C. Smith,	C. Randell,	Hopewell P.
A. L. Miller,		
R. C. Ligon,	J. C. Carlile,	Good Hope and Providence.
S. L. Morris,	S. P. Dendy, (2)	Walhalla.

## MINISTERS ABSENT AND CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED.

## BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers*—S. L. Watson, L. W. Curtis, Jas. Douglass, W. W. Ratchford, J. H. Douglas, J. W. Query, John G. Hall.

*Churches not represented*—Allison Creek, Beersheba, Bethel, Bullock's Creek, Cane Creek, Carmel Hill, Cedar Shoal, Enoree, Harmony, Hopewell, Lancasterville and Douglass, Mizpah, Mt. Tabor, Olivet, Salem, Shiloh, Tirzah, Zion.

## CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers*—Edward Palmer, T. H. Legare, C. S. Vedder, W. H. Adams,\* James B. Dunwody, J. H. Bryson.

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\*Excused for absence.

*Churches not represented*—Aiken, Barnwell, Beech Island, Central (Charleston), Edisto, Harmony, James Island and John's Island and Wadmalaw, Mt. Pleasant, New Wappetaw, Stoney Creek, Walterboro and Wilson, Summerville.

## HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers*—Wm. Brearley, W. M. Reid, J. Leighton Wilson, H. M. Brearley, J. L. Bartlett, R. Bradley, D. S. McAlister, D. McDuffie, H. C. DuBose.

*Churches not represented*—Aimwell, Beaver Creek, Bethel, Centre Point, Darlington, Elon, Florence, Hopewell, Kentyre, Kingston, Liberty Hill, Little Pee Dee, Lynchburg, Fair Hope and Beulah, Marion, Reedy Creek, Tirzah, Union, Williamsburg.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers*—W. Carlile, E. T. Buist, Wm. McWhorter, J. F. Gibert, Z. L. Holmes, R. H. Reid, E. F. Hyde, J. R. Riley, Hugh McLees, T. C. Ligon, J. G. Law,\* J. R. Jacobs, T. E. Davis.

*Churches not represented*—Belton, Bethany, Bethel, Bethia, Clinton, Cokesbury, Duncan's Creek, Edgefield, Fairview, Greenville and Upper Long Cane, Honea Path, Hopewell, Laurens, Lebanon, Liberty Spring, Limestone, Little Mountain, Little River, Midway, Mt. Calvary, Mt. Zion, Nazareth (B. D.), Ninety-Six, North Pacolet, New Harmony, Antioch and Mt. Tabor, Pickens, Retreat, Richland, Roberts, Rock, Rocky River, Shady Grove, Seneca City, Spartanburg, Varennes, Warrior's Creek, Williamston, Willington.

Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., was chosen Moderator, and Rev. W. J. McKay, Temporary Clerk.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was, on motion, dispensed with, inasmuch as 1,500 copies of them had been printed and distributed among the churches.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Plumer, it was resolved that the session of Synod to-morrow be from 9 o'clock a. m. to 2 p. m.

Synod then adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by the Moderator.

THURSDAY, October 18th, 9 a. m.

Synod met and was opened with prayer by Rev. J. H. Saye. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The following additional members appeared, rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and were enrolled:

## MINISTERS.

J. Lowrie Wilson, L. H. Wilson, D. P. Robinson, T. W. Erwin, J. W. Spratt, G. R. Brackett, J. D. A. Brown, W. T. Thompson, W. A. Gregg, J. B. Adger.

## RULING ELDERS.

*From Bethel Presbytery*—S. G. Hemphill, from Bethesda church; L. R. Williams, Beth Shiloh; Chas. Douglass, Catholic and Pleasant Grove; W. W. Brice, Concord; J. C. Caldwell, Mt. Olivet; J. F. Carothers, Ebenezer and Rock Hill; James Hemphill, Purity; J. J. Porter, Six Mile Creek; A. R. Banks, Fort Mill and Waxhaw.

*From Charleston Presbytery*—G. S. Cook, from Second church, Charleston; A. Crawford, First church, Columbia.

*From Harmony Presbytery*—Jas. W. Law, Seion church; H. L. McLaurin, Carolina and Red Bluff; J. C. Coit, Cheraw; T. B. Fraser, Sumterville; Edward Clarke, Pine Tree and Pisgah; W. D. Bolick, Lebanon and Salem (L. R.).

*From South Carolina Presbytery*—S. P. Dendy, from Walhalla church.

The Moderator announced the following

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Bills and Overtures*—Ministers: D. Harrison, W. S. Plumer, D. E. Frierson; Elders, J. M. Baxter, W. M. Scott.

*Judicial*—Ministers: J. B. Adger, E. H. Buist, F. L. Leeper; Elders, Thos. Thomson, Mortimer Glover.

*Narrative*—Ministers: C. E. Chichester, W. P. Jacobs, Elder: A. R. Banks.

*Theological Seminary*—Ministers: J. R. Dow, J. B. Mack, J. S. White; Elders: Thos. Thomson, J. B. Jennings.

*Finance*—Elders: J. A. Enslow, A. F. Cousar, J. C. Carlile.

*Minutes of General Assembly*—Ministers: J. L. Martin, J. H. Saye; Elder: R. J. McCreight.

*Leave of Absence*—Ministers: W. W. Mills, A. L. Miller; Elder: G. C. Gill.

*Devotional Exercises*—Minister: George Howe; Elder, A. Crawford.

*Presbyterial Records*—

Bethel—Minister: G. R. Brackett; Elder: T. Stenhouse.

Charleston—" J. S. Bailey; " J. R. Schorb.

Harmony—" W. F. Pearson; " J. F. Dorroh.

South Carolina—Minister: J. S. Cozby; Elder: J. R. Shaw.

Letters from Rev. W. H. Adams and Rev. J. G. Law, presenting excuses for absence from this meeting, were read and referred to the Committee on Leave of Absence.

Rev T. H. Law presented the report of the Treasurer of Synod for the year 1876-1877, which is as follows:

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

*T. H. Law, Treasurer, in account with the Synod of South Carolina:*  
1876. DR.

Oct. 29. To balance in hands of Treasurer, . . . \$3 10

Dec. 9. " Assessment, Bethel Presbytery, paid, 55 00

1877.

Mar. 20. " " Charleston Presbytery, paid, 35 00

April 2. " " Harmony " " 50 00

Oct. 8. " " South Carolina " " 60 00 \$203 10



1877. CR.

April 9.	By amount paid for printing and distribnting		
	1,500 copies Minutes,	\$81	15
May 7.	" expense sending Record to Gen'l Assembly,	1	00
Oct. 8.	" salary of Stated Clerk,	100	00
" 17.	" balance in hands of Treasurer,	20	95 \$203 10
	Respectfully submitted,	T. H. LAW, Treasurer.	

The report was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Stated Clerks of the several Presbyteries presented the Presbyterian Narratives and Statistical Reports. The former were referred to the Committee on the Narrative. The following are the

### STATISTICAL REPORTS.

*Bethel Presbytery* reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it consists of twenty-two ministers and thirty-six churches. It has dismissed the Rev. A. F. Dickson to Tuscaloosa Presbytery; has dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. T. W. Erwin and the congregation of Concord, and between Rev. R. D. Perry and the congregation of Mizpah; has licensed T. M. Lowry and J. L. Williamson as probationers for the gospel ministry; and has received licentiate G. A. Trenholm from the care of Charleston Presbytery, licentiate Erskine Brantley from the care of the Presbytery of Nashville, and licentiate H. C. Fennel from the care of the First Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South; it has five licentiates and two candidates under its care; it has suspended Rev. J. E. White from the exercise of the functions of the gospel ministry. One new house of worship has been erected within its bounds.

D. HARRISON, Stated Clerk.

*Charleston Presbytery* reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it consists of fourteen ministers and twenty-two churches, three of which are colored. It has under its care three licentiates and two candidates for the ministry. It has, during the past year, employed one evangelist, and a licentiate as an acting evangelist. It has ordained licentiate T. H. Cunningham, and installed him pastor of Ebenezer church, Charleston. It has dissolved the pastoral relation existing between Rev. John H. Bryson and the First church, Columbia. It has licensed candidates George A. Trenholm, James J. Chisolm, and James E. Fogartie to preach the gospel; and it has transferred licentiate George A. Trenholm to the care of Bethel Presbytery.

JOHN R. DOW, Stated Clerk.

*Harmony Presbytery* reports to the Synod that it is composed of twenty-five ministers and forty-three churches, and has under its care three licentiates and six candidates. Candidates Donald McQueen, jr., T. P. Hay, and W. S. Plumer Bryan, have been licensed to preach the gospel, and the first named has been transferred to the care of Mecklenburg Presbytery, Synod of North Carolina. The name of candidate W. F. Price has been dropped from the roll, and candidate H. F. Wilson has, at his own request, been allowed to withdraw his name from the roll of candidates. Rev. A. Ross Kennedy has been dismissed to the Presbytery of Arkansas. The pastoral relation existing between the Rev. N. W. Edmunds and Aimwell church has been dissolved, and the Rev. A. M. Hassell has been installed pastor of Lynchburg, Beulah, and Fair Hope

churches. Thirty-two out of forty-three churches are supplied with the stated means of grace.

W. A. GREGG, Stated Clerk.

*South Carolina Presbytery* reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it is composed of thirty ministers and fifty-eight churches, and has under its care one licentiate and thirteen candidates. It has received Rev. T. E. Davis from Mecklenburg Presbytery, and dismissed Rev. J. F. Latimer to the same: it has also dismissed Rev. F. Jacobs, D. D., to the Presbytery of Atlanta. It has ordained licentiates S. L. Morris and R. C. Ligon, and installed the first pastor of Walhalla church, and the second pastor of Good Hope and Providence churches. It has dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. J. R. Riley and the Laurens C. H. church, and between Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D., and the Washington Street church. It has lost Rev. J. L. Kennedy by death. It has organized the churches of Edgefield and Limestone. It has received under its care licentiate E. P. Davis, from the Presbytery of Mecklenburg, and examined him with a view to his ordination and installation as pastor of Hopewell and Willington churches. It has, at his own request, and for reasons in no wise affecting his moral or Christian character, revoked the license to preach, of Mr. R. A. Reid.

WM. P. JACOBS, Stated Clerk.

On motion, a special Committee, consisting of the Rev. C. B. Stewart, Rev. S. H. Hay, and Elder C. Randell, was appointed to prepare and report a Minute in reference to Rev. J. L. Kennedy, deceased.

Rev. Dr. Howe, of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, reported in part, that Rev. J. B. Mack preach in this house to-night; and that the last half hour of each morning's session of Synod be spent in devotional exercises. Adopted.

Col. Thomas Thomson presented the annual report of the Society for the Relief of aged and superannuated Ministers, etc., which was received and approved; and on motion of Rev. J. H. Saye, the same officers were reappointed to serve in the Society another year.

On motion of Rev. J. H. Saye, Synod took up the report upon the readjustment of the Presbyterianial boundaries, referred to this meeting by the Synod last year. Rev. C. E. Chichester moved the adoption of the report. On motion, the report was considered *seriatim*.

It was moved to adopt the first section of the report. After considerable discussion, the Rev. Dr. Plumer presented the following substitute, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That while Synod is not prepared at present to make a new adjustment of Presbyterianial boundaries, it nevertheless will be happy to erect one or more new Presbyteries as soon as the ministers and churches concerned shall harmoniously present a plan and petition to that effect.

On motion, Rev. H. B. Garriss, of the Synod of North Caro-



lina, and Rev. James Woodrow, D. D., of the Synod of Georgia, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The time and place of the next meeting was, on motion, taken from the docket, and Spartanburg was chosen as the place, and Wednesday before the 4th Sabbath in October, the 23d day of the month, 8 o'clock p. m., the time.

Requests were presented from Rev. Dr. Wightman, of the Washington Street M. E. church, and Rev. Mr. Lindsay, of the Baptist church, that the Synod supply their pulpits next Sabbath. Referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

On motion it was resolved that Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., and Col. Thomas Thomson, be appointed a committee to report to our next meeting a plan for improving the contributions of our churches.

On motion of Rev. W. A. Gregg, Rev. W. P. Jacobs, President of the Thornwell Orphanage, was heard in reference to that institution.

An appeal, setting forth the reasons therefor, of Rev. J. E. White, from the judgment of Bethel Presbytery, in suspending him from the exercise of the functions of the gospel ministry, was placed in the hands of the Stated Clerk. On motion of Major Baxter, it was

*Resolved*, That the appeal of Mr. James E. White from the judgment of Bethel Presbytery, finding him guilty of contumacy and a violation of the Eighth Commandment, be referred to the Judicial Committee, with all matters pertaining thereto, without prejudice.

On motion, Maj. T. B. Fraser was added to the Judicial Committee.

Synod spent a half hour in devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. J. H. Saye; after which, Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator.

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FRIDAY, Oct. 19th, 9½ a. m.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by Rev. W. W. Mills. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The following additional members appeared, rendered satisfactory excuses for tardiness, and were enrolled: Ministers—J. E. Dunlop, L. R. McCormick, and J. O. Lindsay. Elder James McCutchen of Indiantown church, Harmony Presbytery.

Rev. S. Taylor Martin, Synod of North Carolina, being present, was invited to sit as corresponding member.

On motion, Rev. Drs. Howe and Lindsay, and Mr. Jas. Hemphill, were heard in relation to the Theological Seminary.

The Committees on the Records of the several Presbyteries reported, recommending in each case their approval. Adopted.

Rev. Dr. Adger, of the Judicial Committee, presented a report, and pending a motion to adopt it, the further consideration of the report was, on motion of Maj. Baxter, made the special order for 12 o'clock to-day.

Rev. J. L. Martin, of the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, reported that the Committee find nothing in the Minutes calling for the attention of Synod, and ask to be discharged. Granted.

No business being ready for Synod, on motion, a recess was taken until 12 o'clock.

Synod resumed business after recess. The report of the Judicial Committee was taken up, which is as follows:

The Judicial Committee, having given very careful consideration to the appeal of the Rev. James E. White against the decision of the Presbytery of Bethel, suspending him indefinitely from the ministry, would report that, in their judgment, it is not in order:

*First.* Because the appellant did not "give notice of his intention to appeal, and also lay the reasons thereof in writing" before the Presbytery, previous to its rising, nor yet "within ten days after, to the Moderator;" and

*Secondly.* Because the appeal is not "couched in language respectful" to the Presbytery, but "contains offensive reflections and insinuations" respecting that body, such as it does not become this Court to entertain.

For the Committee,

JOHN B. ADGER, Chairman.

Maj. Baxter, in behalf of Mr. White, asked that he be allowed to withdraw the offensive language used in his appeal, and made a motion to that effect.

Pending the discussion of this motion, the hour for devotional exercises arrived. On motion, the standing order for devotional exercises was suspended for to-day; and, on motion, it was resolved that when Synod close its session this morning, it take recess, to meet again at 7½ o'clock this evening.

Mr. Enslow, of the Committee on Finance, reported, and the report was received and docketed.

On motion, Synod resolved that the Clerk be allowed to keep the minutes in *condensed* and not in *journalistic* form.

On motion, the devotional exercises for to-day were suspended until the last half hour of this evening's session.

Synod then took recess until 7½ o'clock.

Synod met and was called to order at 7½ o'clock.

Rev. C. E. Chichester presented the report of the Committee on the Narrative, which was adopted, as follows:

From the reports sent up from the various Presbyteries, we learn that during the past Synodical year the ministers connected with this Synod have labored faithfully and regularly in their several spheres of usefulness, and their labors have not been in vain. While there has been no unusual manifestation of God's Spirit among the churches, there have been continual accessions to the number of members. A commendable zeal has also been manifested on the part of officers and members, in their efforts to advance the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church of Christ. Christians are endeavoring to walk circumspectly, and show by precept and example that they are striving to follow their Saviour.

Most of our churches enjoy the stated ministry of the Word; but there are a few which are vacant and sadly in need of aid from their more favored sisters. The attendance upon the services of the Church is uniformly good.

Notwithstanding the extreme stringency of the times, most of the churches have contributed liberally to all the schemes of benevolence brought before them.

Sabbath-schools are established in nearly all the churches, and are reported to be generally in a flourishing condition.

Prayer-meetings are maintained regularly in the city and village churches, and in some also of the country churches.

There has been no aggressive work reported, no vacant places occupied, no new fields cultivated. It is to be greatly regretted that we cannot extend our beloved Church into sections we have never occupied heretofore.

There have been but few cases of discipline, and peace and harmony seem to pervade our beloved Zion. We have much cause for thankfulness for God's blessings in the past, while at the same time it becomes us to humbly invoke the Spirit of God to aid us in the future, for "without Him we can do nothing."

Rev. D. Harrison, of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported as follows, which was adopted:

The following overture has been placed in the hands of the Committee:

The Charleston Presbytery would respectfully overture the Synod of South Carolina to interpret the law of the Church respecting the installation of a pastor, in the following particular: Where two or more churches unite in calling a pastor, must installation services be held in each church of the pastoral charge, or may he be installed in one congregation, and the other church or churches of the group be represented by commissioners?

To which your Committee recommend the following answer: That where two or three churches unite in a call for a pastor, he may, in accordance with the principles of our Form of Government, be installed pastor of the united charge, at any one of the churches, the others being present through commissioners chosen to represent them.

The unfinished business was resumed. The motion to allow Rev. J. E. White to withdraw the offensive language used in his statement of reasons for appeal was, after further discussion, adopted.

The report of the Judicial Committee was then adopted.

The following communication from Mr. White was read :

*To the Reverend Moderator and Members of the Synod of South Carolina, in session at Columbia, October 19th, 1877:*

FATHERS AND BRETHREN: I doubt not you will all admit that my circumstances are delicate and trying. I certainly feel them to be very painfully so. Without attempting in any way to pursue a line of conduct which could possibly prolong the painful controversy in which I am a party, I beg to submit to your venerable body the following statement for their consideration and action.

1. Whatever I may have said or personally done that was painful to any of my brethren, I heartily regret it, and, as far as I can, I hereby recall it. I ask them to love and sincerely pray for me, as I love and daily pray for them.

2. I sincerely regret that in the paper sent up to your venerable body, I should have used language which was fairly capable of a bad construction. I hereby recall it, and disclaim any intention needlessly to inflict pain on any of my brethren.

3. I will vacate the parsonage within a reasonable time, not exceeding thirty days; and I hope that peace and concord may be restored to the church of which I was lately the pastor.

4. In the painful controversy in which I have been engaged, I have heard of my brethren saying things that were very painful to me. But I am entirely unwilling to cherish any bitter remembrances of such things, and I freely forgive them, and am willing now to give the right hand of fellowship to all of my brethren in the ministry and eldership.

5. I entirely submit to the jurisdiction of my Presbytery, and ask them, as they so intended it, that as soon as in their judgment the ends of discipline are answered, to restore me to the full work of the gospel ministry, again giving me the right hand of fellowship to take part in this ministry with them.

JAMES E. WHITE.

Rev. Dr. Plumer presented the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Bethel be directed to meet this evening and take such action as the altered state of the case of the Rev. J. E. White naturally suggests.

On motion, the members of Bethel Presbytery were allowed to withdraw from the house, for the purpose of holding a meeting of that body.

Rev. C. B. Stewart presented, in behalf of the Committee, the following minute in reference to the Rev. J. L. Kennedy, deceased :

The Committee to whom was assigned the duty of preparing a minute in reference to the death of our deceased father and brother, John Leland Kennedy, would respectfully submit the following :

As a Synod we have occasion to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, and at the same time are allowed to rejoice and be exceedingly glad, because "the righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance."

JOHN LELAND KENNEDY was born in 1801. He gave evidence in early life of having shared in the advantages of wholesome parental instruc-



tion. His whole course, through a life of active usefulness, was in testimony contradictory to the oft-repeated slander, that "ministers' sons are the worst boys in the land." His teachers and associates in the University of Georgia and the South Carolina College gave efficient aid in the cultivation of the precious seed sown in childhood. He made a public profession of faith before completing his literary course. So soon as his evidence of acceptance with God was satisfactory, he determined to perform a "reasonable service;" lay his soul and body as a living sacrifice on the altar—to go as a servant of the Most High God, and show unto others the way of salvation. His first lessons in theology were taken under the supervision of the Rev. Michael Dickson. He was taken under the care of South Carolina Presbytery in 1827, was licensed at Duncan's Creek church in 1829, and was ordained to the full work of the ministry in 1830. For nearly *fifty years* he preached and taught, Georgia and South Carolina sharing in the advantages of his labors. His powers as a preacher were not fully developed; his energies were seriously affected by his wonderful zeal as a teacher. As a teacher, he had few if any superiors; and yet his labors in the pulpit were always acceptable and profitable in the various fields he occupied. He spent a large portion of his time at Carmel and Williamston churches.

He was emphatically a great man. That greatness will perhaps never cease to be manifested in its influence upon the minds and consciences of his pupils and hearers, to the glory of God. As a husband, father, teacher, and minister, he was kind, indulgent, successful, and faithful.

When the Master called, he was found with his lamp trimmed and burning. Patience had completed her perfect work. Christ to him was all and in all—"made of God unto him wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption."

Brethren, we close under a profound conviction that no appropriate monument can be erected on paper. No: his must stand in the hearts of his friends, more durable than brass or marble; more pure than silver, more precious than gold. It is pleasant to hope that he has received an appropriate reward, and is now in the glorious mansions of our Father's house, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." Let us be stimulated to follow on to know, serve, and enjoy the Lord.

The report of the Committee was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Finance was, on motion, taken from the docket. The order of the last Synod, directing the Stated Clerk to prepare "a revised roll of the elders and deacons of the several churches, with their post offices, to be appended to the Minutes of Synod," was, on motion, rescinded. On motion, the report of the Finance Committee was recommitted.

On motion of Dr. Lindsay, it was resolved that a "Committee on Foreign Missions" be added to the list of the Standing Committees of Synod.

On motion, the order was anticipated, and a half hour spent in devotional exercises, led by Rev. S. H. Hay.

Rev. J. W. Dickson, of the M. E. Church, South, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.



On motion, the report of the Committee on the Theological Seminary was made the first order for to-morrow morning.

On motion, Synod adjourned till 9½ a. m. to-morrow. Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Adger.

SATURDAY, October 20th, 9½ a. m.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Jno. McLees. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence presented the following report, which was approved:

The Committee on Leave of Absence would respectfully report as follows: Rev. W. H. Adams, John G. Law, and D. S. McAllister, have been excused for absence from the present sessions of Synod; and leave of absence has been granted to the following members: Jas. W. Law, Jas. McCutchen, E. R. Williams, J. B. Jennings, S. G. Hemphill, Rev. T. W. Erwin, Rev. Jas. McDowell, G. C. Gill, Rev. W. W. Mills, J. C. Caldwell, Rev. Dr. Junkin, R. J. McCreight, Rev. J. A. Cousar, A. F. Cousar, Rev. W. T. Thompson, W. D. Bolick, Rev. R. E. Cooper, Rev. Dr. Brackett, W. W. Knight, J. A. Enslow.

Rev. J. R. Dow, in behalf of the Committee on the Theological Seminary, reported, and the report was discussed at length, amended, and adopted, as follows:

The Committee on the Theological Seminary in Columbia respectfully present the following report: We would begin by rendering devout thanks to a covenant-keeping God, for the manifold tokens of his favor to this beloved school of theology during the past year. No very serious calamity has befallen our cherished institution, and the lives and health of her four Professors, her Hebrew Tutor, and her students, have been mercifully preserved. While there were but twenty-five students within her walls during the last session, she has now thirty-nine young men in actual attendance, with a prospect of increasing the number before the close of the present session still more.

This is a larger number than has been found in her halls for several years. The testimony of the Faculty is, that the deportment, habits of study, and piety of these young brethren, merit the approbation of the friends of the Seminary, and promise great usefulness to the Church in the future. It is certainly a most encouraging fact, that about twenty-five *new* students have come to the institution this fall, to make their preparation for entering upon the duties of the sacred office. This, we trust, is but an earnest of the richer blessings the Great Head of the Church has in reserve for us.

While we are thus grateful for what the Lord has done for us in the past twelve months, and can confidently depend upon his grace and goodness in the future, yet there is one cause of anxiety to every true friend of our school of the prophets. The financial condition of our Seminary is far from being satisfactory. Some of the investments of the

institution have ceased to pay any interest, and others have been diminished as to the rate paid; so that there is now great difficulty in meeting the necessary expenses of the Seminary. These failures and diminutions are not from any neglect or fault of the Board of Directors, but from the general shrinkage of values prevailing through our whole country. The institution, we regret to say, is considerably behindhand in paying the Professors' salaries, and these honored brethren are now suffering serious privation. After a careful examination of the pecuniary condition of the Seminary, we find that \$3,500 will be absolutely needed for the present year; and we must look for this amount to God's people throughout the bounds of the Synods of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. Knowing how dear this institution is to the hearts of Presbyterians in our own State, we cast ourselves in this emergency upon the churches of our Synod, and ask them to contribute \$1,500 of this amount, hoping that the other three Synods specially interested in the institution, will conjointly raise the remaining \$2,000. Surely, when we consider what God has done for South Carolina in the past year, and how he is now beginning to send peace and prosperity throughout our borders, we cannot doubt that our congregations will respond cheerfully and liberally to the request.

We recommend that Synod appeal to its Presbyteries to raise this amount in the following proportion, viz.:

South Carolina Presbytery,	\$450
Bethel	350
Harmony	350
Charleston	350 \$1,500

We also recommend that the following ministers be appointed to attend to this important matter in the several Presbyteries, viz.: Rev. J. O. Lindsay, D. D., in South Carolina Presbytery; Rev. J. S. White, in Bethel; Rev. W. J. McKay, in Harmony; and Rev. F. L. Leeper, in Charleston Presbytery.

We earnestly urge upon these brethren, and upon all our ministers and elders, the great necessity of collecting these respective sums with the least possible delay, and forwarding them to the Treasurer of the Seminary, Mr. Henry Muller, Columbia, S. C.

It was further resolved—

1. That each church Session within the bounds of this Synod be requested to appoint a deacon to operate within the bounds of the congregation to which he belongs, as an agent for the Theological Seminary.

2. That these deacons be affectionately and earnestly urged to apply to each member of their respective congregations, and endeavor to secure from them a contribution for the salaries of the Professors, by the 1st of January, and forward to the Treasurer.

3. That the Board of Directors of the Seminary be requested to place before this Synod, at each regular meeting, a report of the financial condition and other interests of the institution.

4. That the Board of Directors be requested also to adopt the most efficient measures looking to the re-endowment of the Seminary.

5. That we, the servants of Christ and the Church, return to our respective fields of labor to make immediate effort for the relief of the present distress of the Seminary.

On motion of Rev. T. H. Law, it was

*Resolved*, That a Committee, consisting of Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., Rev. J. L. Martin, and Dr. Wm. T. Russel, be appointed to prepare and report to the Synod at its next meeting a paper on *The Nature and Functions of the Diaconate*.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows :

That they have examined the Treasurer's account, which they find correct and sustained by proper vouchers.

The Committee would recommend that the sum of \$165 be assessed upon the Presbyteries, to meet the contingent expenses of Synod for the ensuing year, and that this amount be apportioned as follows :

Bethel Presbytery,	\$45 00	
Charleston "	30 00	
Harmony "	40 00	
South Carolina Presbytery,	50 00	\$165 00

And also, that the Stated Clerk be instructed to have printed 1,500 copies of the Minutes of this meeting for distribution.

The report was adopted.

Rev. Dr. Howe presented the following report of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, which was adopted :

Rev. W. J. McKay preach in this house to-night at 7½ o'clock ; Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., preach Sabbath morning, and Rev. S. H. Hay administer the Lord's Supper ; Rev. S. Taylor Martin of North Carolina, preach at night, at 7½ o'clock ; Rev. J. B. Mack preach in the Washington Street M. E. church Sabbath morning, and Rev. D. E. Frierson at night ; Rev. J. S. White in the Marion Street M. E. church in the morning, and Rev. J. R. Dow at night ; Rev. E. H. Buist in the Lutheran church in the morning ; Rev. J. R. Dow, in the Baptist church in the morning.

On motion of Rev. J. H. Saye, it was resolved that a conference on Foreign Missions be held in this house to-morrow afternoon, to be conducted by Rev. Dr. Plumer, and addressed by Rev. Dr. Howe and others.

A communication was received from the Young Men's Christian Association of Columbia, inviting the members of Synod to participate in the devotional exercises of the Association to-morrow.

On motion of Major Baxter, the thanks of the members of Synod are hereby returned to the citizens of Columbia for the kind and generous hospitality extended during the sessions of the body ; and also to the Railroad Companies for reduced rates of travel.

A motion to adjourn being made, the minutes of to-day were read and approved.

Synod then adjourned with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction, to meet in Spartanburg church, Wednesday, October 23d, 1878, at 8 o'clock p. m.

JOHN L. GIRARDEAU, *Moderator*.

THOMAS H. LAW, *Stated Clerk*.